

Feuding Drivers Heat Up NASCAR Series

LOUDON, N.H. (AP) — Wrecks. Revenge. Name calling.

Sounds like a recipe for a summer blockbuster coming to a theater near you. Instead, it's just another week in the Sprint Cup series where tempers are flaring, drivers are feuding and payback lurks right around the next turn.

Rivalries are heating up with the temperatures as only 10 races remain until the Chase for the Sprint Cup championship field is set.

Jeff Gordon might have to watch his bumper when the flag drops for Sunday's race at New Hampshire Motor Speedway. He left last week's race at Infineon Raceway as NASCAR's most wanted for a series of overly aggressive moves on the track.

One of those times led to a race-ending wreck for Martin Truex Jr. Truex was running inside the top 10 when Gordon spun him, causing him to drop back into traffic, where he was caught in a multi-car accident.

Gordon took the blame for that one and left an apology this week on Truex's voicemail.

Truex has accepted the apology, and he wants Gordon to accept the fact that he'll change the way he races the four-time champion from here on out.

"The nice guy seems to always get pushed around and I'm tired of being the nice guy," said Truex, who has one career win. "I'm tired of getting pushed around."

Truex vowed on his radio last week to seek revenge against Gordon. He backed off a bit on

Friday and said he won't go out of the way to intentionally wreck Gordon. He just won't hesitate to deliver some payback if the opportunity presents itself this week at New Hampshire, or beyond.

"There's been times when Jeff's caught me and ever even gave me the chance to get out of the way," Truex said. "He just started running into me, and he's the first guy to hang his middle finger out the window when he goes by you."

"Things are going to change, that's all I'm saying."

Truex might have to take a number. Gordon and Truex are only one simmering feud in a series where new disputes are seemingly popping up every week.

Gordon angered Elliott Sadler, Kurt Busch and Greg Biffle last week. Busch finished 32nd last week and said contact from Gordon cut his right-rear tire.

Gordon was unapologetic. Busch drew some laughs with his new nickname for Gordon.

"There are a lot of guys in front of me that want to go talk to Jeff 'Bulldozer' Gordon," he said.

Gordon knows he's going to have to deal with retaliation eventually.

"I'm going to deal with whatever comes my way," Gordon said.

Vince McMahon could have created a Wrestlemania card just last week alone. Joey Logano was angry with Juan Pablo Montoya. Boris Said's crew chief had a beef with Tony Stewart. Carl Edwards was furious a solid run was spoiled by road-racer Jan Magnussen.

While some applauded the reborn

aggressive style that came with NASCAR backing off on penalties and trusting the drivers to police themselves, others fear the sport is morphing into an out-of-control demolition derby for no good reason.

"I thought last week was horrendous," Jeff Burton said. "I thought the behavior shown last week from driver to driver was completely unacceptable. If our sport is going to become that, then we need to change it from racing to demolition cars because that wasn't racing last week."

Burton said drivers, in their haste to do all they can to make the Chase, have lost respect for others on the track. Double-file restarts and the "boys, have at it" edict have only added to the insanity of already pressure-packed races.

"Everybody in this garage knows how to use the brake pedal and the throttle and use the steering wheels," Burton said. "Yet people chose not to use them correctly because it was either in their best interest to run over the guy in front of them, or they were trying really hard to keep from getting run over from behind."

It seems whatever happens on the track, isn't staying on the track.

Gordon and four-time defending champion Jimmie Johnson exchanged some public barbs earlier this year after two straight weeks of run-ins. Kyle Busch and Denny Hamlin, another pair of teammates, also fired harsh words at each other. Logano and Kevin Harvick let their feud boil into a caustic war of words.

Omaha To Host 2012 NCAA VB Regional

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Omaha's Qwest Center has been selected as one of four regional hosts for the 2012 NCAA volleyball tournament.

It will mark the third time the Qwest Center has been a volleyball regional site. Nebraska will be the host institution.

Other regional sites are Texas, California and Purdue. The national semifinals and championship matches will be played in Louisville,

Kortan Cards Ace At Fox Run GC

Dan Kortan took advantage of Couples Night league play at Fox Run Golf Course to shoot a hole-in-one Friday night.

Kortan made the ace on hole No. 8, hitting the 140-yard shot with a 7-iron.

Golfing with Kortan were Sharon Scissons, Denny Auch and Kim Auch.

It was Kortan's third career hole-in-one.

Roddick, Federer On Course For Semis

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — There were moments during Andy Roddick's third-round match at Wimbledon when he could have allowed himself to get distracted by frustration.

Indeed, there was a time, not all that long ago, when he probably would have.

"You used to see," said Roddick's coach, Larry Stefanki, "negativity carry over and linger for a few games."

Not anymore. The No. 5-seeded American let the second set slip away against No. 29 Philipp Kohlschreiber of Germany, then quickly regrouped Friday, finishing with 28 aces in a 7-5, 6-7 (5), 6-3, 6-3 victory to reach the second week at the All England Club.

"I've done a good job of not saying a word out there this whole tournament, just going about my business the right way," Roddick said, "so I just tried to play the next point."

Leading 5-4 in the second set, Roddick got to love-40 on Kohlschreiber's serve. But Roddick frittered away all three of those set points, then lost the last three points of the tiebreaker, too. Did he let that bother him? No, he went out and broke to open the third set.

BALL

From Page 6A

a RBI single to lead Yankton. Chris Kanaly had a hit and a run scored. Andrew Hummel added a double for the Black Sox.

Yankton, 3-8 overall, takes on West Fargo, N.D., today (Saturday) at 9 a.m., then faces Sioux Falls South at 3 p.m. The

tournament concludes Sunday.

Amateur

Tabor 18, Crofton 6

TABOR — The South Central League-leading Tabor Bluebirds ran their league record to 8-1 with an 18-6 victory over Crofton in SCL baseball action Friday night.

Nick Kortan finished with four hits, including a double, to lead Tabor. Brandon Tycz had three hits. Brett Sime doubled and singled. Corey Uecker and Rob

Keppen had two hits each in the victory.

Joe Wiebelhaus had two of Crofton's six hits.

Logan Tycz picked up the win, with Chris Sutura pitching two innings of scoreless relief. Scot Donner took the loss.

Tabor, 8-1, is off until a July 2 game at Lesterville. Crofton, 5-5 in league play, plays at Yankton Sunday.

CROFTON.....840 020 0-5 6 5
TABOR.....872 485 1-18 17 4
Scot Donner, Nick Haggie (3), Tyler Zimmerman (6) and Carl Schaeffer; Logan Tycz, Chris Sutura (6) and Steve Fejfar

MLB

From Page 6A

gave up three runs on seven hits. Carlos Villanueva, Kameron Loe and Trevor Hoffman each pitched a scoreless inning in relief.

Ryan Rowland-Smith (1-7) gave up five runs on five hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Rowland-Smith retired nine of the first 10 batters, but Corey Hart led off the fourth with a single and Ryan Braun singled before Lucroy's three-run shot. Carlos Gomez followed with a solo homer.

Alcides Escobar's sacrifice fly in the sixth inning and Prince Fielder RBI double in the seventh upped the Brewers lead to 6-3. Gomez singled and Escobar hit another sacrifice to add two more runs in the eighth.

ORIOLES 7, NATIONALS 6; BALTIMORE (AP) — Pinch-runner Jake Fox scored the winning run in the ninth inning on a throwing error by Cristian Guzman, and Baltimore rallied from a six-run deficit.

The Orioles trailed 6-0 in the fifth inning and 6-3 in the eighth before coming back. Baltimore took full advantage of Washington's season-high four errors — none more damaging than the last.

Matt Wieters drew a one-out walk from Tyler Clippard (8-4) in the ninth and moved to second on a single by Scott Moore. Fox then ran to Wieters, and Matt Capps entered to face Julio Lugo.

Alfredo Simon (2-1) worked the ninth for the Orioles, who have won two straight for the first time since mid-May.

BRAVES 3, TIGERS 1; ATLANTA (AP) — Billy Wagner earned his 400th career save and Brian McCann gave Atlanta the lead with a fourth-inning homer.

McCann's 100th career homer was one of the few mistakes made by Rookie Andy Oliver (0-1) in his major league debut. The left-hander gave up five hits and two runs in six

innings.

Brooks Conrad added an eighth-inning homer off Eddie Bonine.

Kris Medlen (5-1), possibly pitching to protect his spot in the Braves' rotation, gave up six hits and one run in 6 2-3 innings.

Wagner struck out the side in the ninth for his 15th save this season. Wagner is fifth on the career list and second among left-handers behind John Franco's 424.

PHILLIES 9, BLUE JAYS 0; PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Roy Halladay pitched seven scoreless innings in his first start against his former team, in a road game at Philadelphia's own ballpark.

The series was moved from Toronto to Philadelphia because of the G20 Summit. But the Blue Jays wore white and batted second.

Halladay (9-6) allowed six hits and struck out four to snap a personal three-game losing streak. Jose Contreras and David Herndon finished the seven-inning.

Foss Glodd tied a career-high with four RBIs and Shane Victorino homered, helping the Phillies win their fourth straight.

Blue Jays starter Jesse Litsch (0-2) allowed six runs and seven hits in four-plus innings. The right-hander made his second start since having Tommy John surgery last June.

REDS 10, INDIANS 3; CINCINNATI (AP) — Drew Stubbs drove in four runs with a homer and a single Friday night sending Cleveland to its sixth straight loss.

The Reds wore green caps as part of an Irish Heritage Night promotion, bringing a new hue to the intrastate rivalry — one that's been one-sided lately. Cincinnati is 12-4 in the series over the last three seasons.

Aaron Harang (6-7) gave up eight hits in seven innings, getting his first victory in three starts. Cincinnati had been shut out in his last two starts.

Didn't take long to end that trend. Stubbs hit a two-run homer in the second off Aaron Laffey (0-2), and added a two-run single in the fifth that made it 8-2.

Scott Rolen also homered for the Reds, who lead the NL in batting average and hits.

Jay Bruce doubled twice, scored three times and had a sacrifice fly.

METS 5, TWINS 2; NEW YORK (AP) — David Wright homered and drove in two runs to back a solid start by Mike Pelfrey.

Jason Bay added a long RBI double and the Mets took advantage of two rare defensive miscues by Minnesota to win for the 15th time in 19 games. Jose Reyes drove in a run and scored another as New York improved to 27-11 at home with its 13th victory in the past 15 games at Citi Field.

The Mets, who began the day a half-game behind first-place Atlanta in the NL East, are a major league-best 22-8 since May 22.

The series was moved from Toronto to Philadelphia because of the G20 Summit. But the Blue Jays wore white and batted second.

Pelfrey (10-2) gave up a leadoff homer to Denard Span on his second pitch and little else. Francisco Rodriguez pitched the ninth for his 17th save in 20 chances.

Kevin Slowey (7-5) gave five runs in six innings.

NATIONAL LEAGUE
PADRES 3, MARLINS 0; MIAMI (AP) — Will Venable's two-run home run in the seventh inning broke a scoreless tie. Clayton Richard gave up five hits in six efficient innings and the San Diego Padres spoiled Florida intermanager Edwin Rodriguez's home debut by beating the Marlins 3-0 on Friday night.

Venable and Chase Headley each had two hits for the Padres, who've won four of their last five. Richard (5-4) won for the first time in his last six starts, although he has a 2.77 ERA during that stretch.

Hanley Ramirez had three hits for Florida, raising his average to .299. The rest of the Marlins went 4 for 27, with Ronny Paulino getting two of those hits.

Richard and Marlins starter Chris Volstad (4-7) each rolled through the first six innings, rarely getting into any sort of trouble. But in the seventh, Volstad — who had just retired nine straight Padres — flinched.

CWS

From Page 6A

Purke escaped further damage when, with two outs and two runners on, right fielder Brance Rivera made a running catch on Niko Gallego's slicing fly ball.

Purke left with one out in the seventh, allowing three hits, walking two and hitting a batter. He has a 4-0 record and a 1.98 ERA in the NCAA tournament, recording 29 strikeouts and holding opponents to a .163 batting average.

"I thought Matt had good stuff, but he certainly wasn't as dominant as he has been," TCU coach Jim Schlossnagle said. "It's all about pitching and defense regardless of who you're playing or what park you're in. And we did a good job of that today."

Lockwood, who earned his eighth save, came on and walked the bases loaded with two outs before Gallego sent a chopper down the line that third baseman Jantzen Witte grabbed behind the bag. Witte raced to tag the base and appeared to have gotten there first for what would have been the third out. But umpire A.J. Lostaglio ruled that Jeff Galich beat him, allowing Cody Regis to score and pull the Bruins within 3-2.

Matt Curry, who hit the game-

winning grand slam against Florida State on Wednesday, led off the bottom half with a single before Featherston drove the ball into the left-field bleachers for his eighth homer.

Rasmussen, who pitched a two-hitter in his first career complete game in the super regionals against Cal State Fullerton, threw 34 pitches in the first inning and walked in a run. Rasmussen allowed three runs, six hits and three walks in 4 1-3 innings.

UCLA center fielder Beau Amaral went 0 for 4 with two strikeouts. He came into the game 6 for 7 in the CWS.

"It's a new ballgame tomorrow, and we feel very, very confident about our team," UCLA coach John Savage said. "We had a misstep, and I think you've got to give a lot of credit to TCU. And we'll get back after it and play Bruin baseball tomorrow."

S. Carolina 5, Clemson 1
OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — Michael Roth pitched a three-hitter in his first start in 14 months, and South Carolina scored in five of the first six innings to beat Clemson 5-1 on Friday night and force a second Bracket 2 final at the College World Series.

South Carolina (51-16) and Clemson (45-24) meet again Saturday, with the winner advancing to the best-of-three championship round that starts Monday.

Roth (2-1) has been a short

reliever his entire career, logging more than three innings in only two of his previous 48 appearances. The sophomore left-hander struck out four, walked one and hit two batters.

Kyle Enders hit his third homer and had an RBI single, and Jackie Bradley drove in two runs for the Gamecocks, who have staved off elimination in three straight games.

Clemson starter Dominic Leone (3-2) took the loss, allowing three runs, four hits and a walk in 2 2-3 innings.

Roth was efficient, throwing 109 pitches. He allowed a double to Richie Shaffer leading off the third, then retired 15 of the next

17 before Wilson Boyd reached on an error.

After Clemson's Brad Miller singled to right with two outs in the ninth, Roth struck out John Hinson. He pounded his glove with his left hand as he walked off the mound, then chest-bumped Enders, his catcher.

Roth was making his first start after pitching 26 1-3 innings over 35 relief appearances this season. Last year he started nonconference games against Georgia Southern and College of Charleston.

Before Friday, his longest career outing was 4 1-3 innings against College of Charleston. This year his longest outing was 3

1-3 innings of relief against Bucknell in regionals.

South Carolina coach Ray Tanner gave Roth the start in hopes of saving arms. The Gamecocks have been fighting off elimination since losing 4-3 to Oklahoma in their CWS opener.

South Carolina has since eliminated No. 1 national seed Arizona State and come from behind to beat Oklahoma in 12 innings after being down to their

last strike on Thursday.

Clemson had been off since Tuesday, when it followed its first-round win over Arizona State with a victory over Oklahoma.

Clemson and South Carolina have played 291 times since 1899. This was the third time the in-state rivals have met at the CWS, with the Gamecocks winning both meetings in 2002.

WAGNER

From Page 6A

basketball coach, his teams posted a 173-29 record with six conference, five district and four region titles. In 2004 and 2005, Christensen led the Fillies to back-to-back state championships with a perfect 49-0 record in that span.

In two other trips to the state tournament, he guided Mount Vernon to a second and a third-place finish.

Overall, Christensen's record at the high school level was 207-37, a winning percentage of nearly 85 percent.

Christensen said the process for even applying for a college

position was different.

"It was a fun process, just a lot different than the one in high school," he said. "When I was in Mount Vernon, they asked if I wanted to coach. And I was close with (Goter) in Wagner, so he brought me in there."

"But with DWU, you have to go through committees, prove yourself and show you're able to make the jump."

The Tigers were left without a head coach when former coach Aaron Kahl accepted a position at NCAA Division III Northwestern Coleje in Roseville, Minn., in early May.

Less than two months later, DWU has a coach athletic director Curt Hart called the "perfect fit."

"In the end, Jason rose to the top of our lists because of his

passion for not only coaching and teaching the game of basketball, but his desire to influence success at his alma mater," Hart said in a press release. "His ties to the school and community and his proven coaching success make him a perfect fit."

Giving credit to Kahl and his former assistants for their work, Christensen said his familiarity with DWU's area players and the Mitchell community should help him.

"I'm not going into a situation with nothing to work with, there's some talent up there," said Christensen, who said he received 52 text messages through Friday afternoon offering congratulations.

"Mitchell is a very tight-knit group, and I'm excited to be a part of that."

DRAFT

From Page 7A

with the 30th and final choice of the first round. "Entourage" actor Kevin Connolly, a big Isles fan, announced the pick.

Earlier, Florida selected Kingston defenseman Erik Gudbranson with the third pick.

"I did my research on their team," said Gudbranson, a physical defenseman with a big shot. "(With) Dmitry Kulikov there, I feel like I could be a good complement to him on the back end. The real attraction was having (new Panthers general manager) Dale Tallon there, seeing what he did with the Chicago Blackhawks and winning the Stanley Cup and building that team from scratch. I feel this is a team that's going in the right direction, so there was no doubt in my mind that I wanted to be here."

Columbus grabbed WHL center Ryan Johansen with the fourth pick. Forward Nino Niederreiter, Johansen's teammate in Portland, became the highest-drafted Swiss player in NHL history when he went to the Islanders with the fifth pick. The Islanders already have defenseman Mark Streit, the only NHL All-Star from Switzerland, as a club cornerstone.

"I'm trying to be a scorer one day," said Niederreiter, who believes he can make the Islanders roster this fall. "At the moment, I think I'm a two-way player with some skills and also defensively. At the end, I just want to be a goal-scorer."

Forward Brett Connolly went sixth to the Tampa Bay Lightning, who weren't worried by his recent injury problems. The Carolina Hurricanes pulled a mild surprise at No. 7, grabbing Kitchener center Jeff Skinner, a former figure skater who has more goal-scoring potential than concrete achievements.

The Atlanta Thrashers took Russian forward Alex Burmistrov with the eighth pick, and the Minnesota Wild grabbed Finland's

Mikael Granlund at No. 9. The New York Rangers used the 10th pick on tough Moose Jaw defenseman Dylan McIlrath, who was rated much lower than still-available defensemen Fowler and Brandon Gormley by most scouting services.

The Dallas Stars chose the draft's first goalie with the 11th pick, selecting Jack Campbell from the U.S. national development team.

Fowler was projected as a top-five talent by most observers, yet he fell all the way to No. 12, where the Ducks eagerly added him to a roster badly in need of talented defensemen. Fowler accepted his new jersey from Scott Niedermayer, the recently retired defensive star and Fowler's model for his game.

"It's hard when you're projected as a top pick and you slide, but it's something to use as motivation," Fowler said. "Who knows why it happened? I'm just glad I landed where I did."

The host Kings made the first trade of the draft, moving up four spots to No. 15 to grab U.S. national team defenseman Derek Forbort, who is headed to North Dakota this fall. The 6-foot-5 Minnesota native rose rapidly in scouts' estimation over the past year with his performance on the strong U.S. team.

"It's pretty cool to go to the hometown team," Forbort said. "Hopefully I'll get to see the facility and find out what the situation is like while I'm in town."

The Pittsburgh Penguins made local history with the 20th pick when they chose right wing Beau Bennett. The native of nearby Gardena is the highest-drafted California born-and-trained player in NHL history.

The Ducks then chose Etem, a speedy forward from Long Beach who plays for Medicine Hat in the WHL. Etem had a huge contingent of family and friends in the Staples Center stands.

JR. LEADER BUCK FOOTBALL CAMP

Registrations Due July 1st

Aug. 2nd, 3rd & 4th
Grades 3-6 • 6-8 P.M.
\$15 (includes Camp T-shirt)

Yankton HS Football Fields
Summit Center

Registration forms are available at the Summit Center, Yankton Public Library or www.yanktonyouthfootball.com

WALK ROLL RIDE

Whatever way you get from room to room you'll love the look and feel of our quality flooring and carpets.

Visit our showroom today for substantial savings on a incredible selection!

CARPET LAMINATE WOOD CERAMIC TILE

Yankton Paint & Decorating

406 Broadway, Yankton • 665-5032